

General Assembly

Governor's Bill No. 29

February Session, 2012

LCO No. 511

00511_____

Referred to Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement

Introduced by:

SEN. WILLIAMS, 29th Dist.

SEN. LOONEY, 11th Dist.

REP. DONOVAN, 84th Dist.

REP. SHARKEY, 88th Dist.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONNECTICUT HEALTH AND EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES AUTHORITY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. Subsection (e) of section 10a-178 of the 2012 supplement
- 2 to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in
- 3 lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2012*):
- 4 (e) "Institution for higher education" means (1) [an educational
- 5 institution situated within this state which by virtue of law or charter
- 6 is a nonprofit educational institution empowered to provide a program
- 7 of education beyond the high school level;] a degree-granting
- 8 educational institution within the United States authorized by
- 9 applicable law to provide a program of education beyond high school
- 10 level and (A) described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue
- 11 Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code
- of the United States, as from time to time amended, and exempt from

- 13 taxation under Section 501(a) of said code, or (B) exempt from taxation
- 14 <u>under said code as a government unit; or</u> (2) a public [educational
- 15 institution, which, shall be the state colleges, known collectively as
- 16 Connecticut State University] or independent institution for higher
- 17 education in this state;
- Sec. 2. Section 10a-178 of the 2012 supplement to the general statutes
- 19 is amended by adding subsections (p) to (r), inclusive, as follows
- 20 (Effective July 1, 2012):
- 21 (NEW) (p) "Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan
- 22 Authority" means the Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental
- 23 Loan Authority established as a subsidiary of the authority with
- 24 powers granted pursuant to chapter 187b.
- 25 (NEW) (q) "Education borrower" means any student or parent who
- 26 has agreed to pay (1) a loan made by the Connecticut Higher
- 27 Education Supplemental Loan Authority to a student or parent, or
- 28 both, to finance the attendance of such student at an institution for
- 29 higher education, or (2) a loan made by or on behalf of a Connecticut
- 30 institution for higher education from the proceeds of a Connecticut
- 31 Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority loan to a student or
- 32 parent, or both, to finance such student's attendance at such institution.
- 33 (NEW) (r) "Parent" means any parent, legal guardian or sponsor of a
- 34 student at an institution for higher education.
- 35 Sec. 3. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2012) (a) The Connecticut Higher
- 36 Education Supplemental Loan Authority is constituted as a subsidiary
- of the Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority. The
- 38 Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority shall be
- 39 deemed a quasi-public agency for purposes of chapter 12 of the
- 40 general statutes and for the purpose of assisting education borrowers
- 41 and Connecticut institutions for higher education in the financing and
- 42 refinancing of the cost of higher education. The Connecticut Higher
- 43 Education Supplemental Loan Authority shall have all the privileges,

44 immunities, tax exemptions and other exemptions of the authority and 45 may exercise the powers granted pursuant to chapter 187b of the 46 general statutes, which shall be deemed and held to be the 47 performance of an essential public and government function. The 48 Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority shall be 49 subject to suit and liability solely from the assets, revenues and 50 resources of the Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan 51 Authority and without recourse to the general funds, revenues, 52 resources or any other assets of the authority. The Connecticut Higher 53 Education Supplemental Loan Authority is authorized, for the 54 purposes set forth in chapter 187b of the general statutes, to mortgage, 55 convey or dispose of its assets and pledge its revenues in order to 56 secure any borrowing, provided each such borrowing or mortgage 57 shall be a special obligation of the Connecticut Higher Education 58 Supplemental Loan Authority, which obligation may be in the form of 59 bonds, bond anticipation notes or other obligations which evidence an 60 indebtedness to the extent permitted under chapter 187b of the general 61 statutes to fund, refinance and refund such borrowing and provide for 62 the rights of holders of such bonds, bond anticipation notes or other 63 obligation, and to secure such bonds, bond anticipation notes or other 64 obligation by pledge of revenues, notes and mortgages of others, and 65 which shall be payable solely from the assets, revenues and other 66 resources of the Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan 67 Authority. The Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan 68 Authority shall have the purposes which shall be consistent with 69 chapter 187b of the general statutes.

(b) The Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority shall be governed by a board of directors consisting of the following nine members: (1) The State Treasurer, or the Treasurer's designee, who shall serve as an ex-officio voting member; (2) the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, or the secretary's designee, who shall serve as an ex-officio voting member; (3) the President of the Board of Regents for Higher Education, or the president's designee, who shall serve as an ex-officio voting member;

70

71

72

73

74

75

76

(4) the chairperson of the board of directors of the authority; (5) the executive director of the authority; (6) a member of the board of directors of the authority who is an active or retired trustee, director, officer or employee of a Connecticut institution for higher education, appointed by the board of directors of the authority; (7) a member of the board of directors of the authority who is an active or retired trustee, director, officer or employee of a Connecticut institution for higher education, appointed by the board of directors of the authority; (8) a resident of this state with a favorable reputation for skill, knowledge and experience in the higher education loan field, who shall be appointed by the board of directors of the authority; and (9) a resident of this state with a favorable reputation for skill, knowledge and experience in either the higher education loan field or in state and municipal finance, appointed by the board of directors of the authority. Of the four appointed members, not more than two may be members of the same political party. The two members who are members of the board of the authority and active or retired trustees, directors, officers or employees of Connecticut institutions for higher education shall serve so long as such member remains a member of the board of the authority or until such time as a successor is appointed. One appointed member shall serve until the earlier of July 1, 2017, or, if such person was a member of the Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority board on June 30, 2012, the date on which such member's then current term was originally scheduled to end. One appointed member shall serve until the earlier of July 1, 2018, or, if such person was a member of the Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority board on June 30, 2012, the date on which such member's then current term was originally scheduled to end. Except as provided in this subsection and notwithstanding the original date of expiration of the term of any person who is an appointed member of the Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority board on June 30, 2012, the term of all such persons shall expire on June 30, 2012. The authority board shall appoint a member or members each for a term of six years or until his or her

78

79

80

81

82

83

84

85

86 87

88

89

90

91

92

93

94

95

96

97

98

99

100

101

102

103

104

105

106

107

108

109

110

112 successor is appointed and has qualified to succeed the members 113 whose terms expire. The authority board shall fill any vacancy for the 114 unexpired term. A member of the Connecticut Higher Education 115 Supplemental Loan Authority board shall be eligible 116 reappointment. Any member of the Connecticut Higher Education 117 Supplemental Loan Authority board may be removed by the 118 appointing authority for misfeasance, malfeasance or wilful neglect of 119 Each member of the Connecticut Higher Education 120 Supplemental Loan Authority board before entering upon his or her 121 duties shall take and subscribe the oath or affirmation required by 122 section 1 of article eleventh of the State Constitution. A record of each 123 such oath shall be filed in the office of the Secretary of the State.

- (c) The chairperson of the board of the directors of the authority shall serve as chairperson of the Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority board. The Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority board shall annually elect one of its members as vice-chairman. The Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority board may appoint an executive director, who shall be an employee of the authority and who shall serve at the pleasure of the Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority board.
- (d) To the extent necessary or appropriate to assure that the interest on any of its bonds, notes or other obligations are or continue to be excluded from the gross income of the recipients for federal income tax purposes, the authority or the Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority shall take such actions to comply with the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United States, as from time to time amended, if necessary, to qualify and maintain such subsidiary as a corporation exempt from taxation under said Internal Revenue Code.
- (e) The provisions of section 1-125 of the general statutes, subsection

124

125

126

127

128

129

130

131

132

133

134

135

136

137

138

139

140

141

- 144 (e) of section 10a-185 of the general statutes and this subsection shall 145 apply to any officer, director, designee or employee appointed as a 146 member, director or officer of the Connecticut Higher Education 147 Supplemental Loan Authority. Any such persons so appointed shall 148 not be personally liable for the debts, obligations or liabilities of the 149 Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority as 150 provided in said section 1-125. The subsidiary shall and the authority 151 may provide for the indemnification to protect, save harmless and 152 indemnify such officer, director, designee or employee as provided by 153 said section 1-125.
- (f) The authority or the Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority may take such actions as are necessary to comply with the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United States, as from time to time amended, to qualify and maintain any such subsidiary as a corporation exempt from taxation under said Internal Revenue Code.
- Sec. 4. Section 10a-180 of the general statutes is amended by adding subsection (x) as follows (*Effective July 1, 2012*):
 - (NEW) (x) To provide and be compensated for such services to or on behalf of the Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority as are appropriate for the operation and management of said authority, including, without limitation, to provide to said authority and to be reimbursed for costs associated with such space, equipment, supplies and employees as are necessary and appropriate for the operations of said authority.
- Sec. 5. Section 10a-223 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2012*):
- In this chapter, the following words and terms shall have the following meanings unless the context indicates another or different meaning or intent:

162

163

164

165166

167

174	[(a)]	(1)	"Authority"	means	the	Higher	Education	Supp	lemental

- 175 Loan Authority [established pursuant to section 10a-224] constituted as
- 176 a subsidiary of the Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities
- 177 Authority as provided in section 3 of this act;
- 178 (2) "Authorized officer" means an employee of the Connecticut
- 179 <u>Health and Educational Facilities Authority or of the authority who is</u>
- 180 <u>authorized by the Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities</u>
- 181 Authority to execute and deliver documents and papers and to act in
- the name of and on behalf of the Connecticut Health and Educational
- 183 Facilities Authority;
- [(b)] (3) "Authority loans" means education loans by the authority,
- or loans by the authority from the proceeds of bonds for the purpose of
- 186 funding education loans;
- [(c)] (4) "Bonds" or "revenue bonds" means revenue bonds or notes
- of the authority issued under the provisions of this chapter, including
- 189 revenue refunding bonds or notes;
- [(d)] (5) "Bond resolution" means the resolution or resolutions of the
- 191 authority and the trust agreement, if any, authorizing the issuance of
- and providing for the terms and conditions applicable to bonds;
- [(e)] (6) "Borrower" means a student and any parent who has
- received or agreed to pay an education loan;
- 195 (7) "Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority" means
- 196 <u>the quasi-public authority established pursuant to section 10a-179;</u>
- [(f)] (8) "Connecticut institution for higher education" means an
- institution for higher education within the state;
- 199 [(g)] (9) "Default insurance" means insurance insuring education
- 200 loans, authority loans or bonds against default;
- [(h)] (10) "Default reserve fund" means a fund established pursuant

to a bond resolution for the purpose of securing education loans, authority loans or bonds;

- [(i)] (11) "Education loan" means a loan which is made by the authority to a student in or from the state, or the parents of such a student, or both, to finance the attendance of the student at an institution for higher education, or a loan by or on behalf of a participating institution for higher education from the proceeds of an authority loan, to a student, or the parents of a student, or both, to finance the student's attendance at such institution;
- 211 [(j)] (12) "Loan funding deposit" means moneys or other property 212 deposited by a Connecticut institution for higher education with the 213 authority, a guarantor or a trustee for the purpose of [(1)] (A) 214 providing security for bonds, [(2)] (B) funding a default reserve fund, 215 [(3)] (C) acquiring default insurance, or [(4)] (D) defraying costs of the 216 authority, such moneys or properties to be in such amounts as deemed 217 necessary by the authority or guarantor as a condition for such 218 institution's participation in the authority's programs;
 - [(k)] (13) "Institution for higher education" means a degree-granting educational institution within the United States authorized by applicable law to provide a program of education beyond the high school level and [(1)] (A) described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United States, as from time to time amended, and exempt from taxation under Section 501(a) of said code with respect to a trade or business carried on by such institution which is not an unrelated trade or business, determined by applying Section 513(a) of said code to such organization or a foundation established for its benefit, or [(2)] (B) exempt from taxation under said code as a governmental unit;
- [(l)] (14) "Participating institution for higher education" means a Connecticut institution for higher education which, pursuant to the provisions of this chapter, undertakes the financing directly or

204

205

206

207

208

209

210

219

220

221

222

223

224

225

226

227

228

229

- 234 indirectly of education loans as provided in this chapter;
- [(m)] (15) "Parent" means any parent, legal guardian or sponsor of a student at an institution for higher education;
- [(n)] (16) "Education loan series portfolio" means all education loans made by the authority or by or on behalf of a specific participating institution for higher education which are funded from the proceeds of a related specific bond issue of the authority.
- Sec. 6. Section 10a-224 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2012*):
- 243 I(a) There is created a body politic and corporate to be known as the 244 "Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority". The 245 authority is constituted a public instrumentality and political 246 subdivision of the state and the exercise by the authority of the powers 247 conferred by this chapter shall be deemed and held to be the 248 performance of an essential public and governmental function. The 249 powers of the authority shall be vested in and exercised by a board of 250 directors which shall consist of eight members, one of whom shall be 251 the State Treasurer, one of whom shall be the Secretary of the Office of 252 Policy and Management and one of whom shall be the president of the 253 Board of Regents for Higher Education, each serving ex officio, and 254 five of whom shall be residents of the state appointed by the Governor, 255 not more than three of such appointed members to be members of the 256 same political party. Three of the appointed members shall be active or 257 retired trustees, directors, officers or employees of Connecticut 258 institutions for higher education. At least one of the appointed 259 members shall be a person having a favorable reputation for skill, 260 knowledge and experience in the higher education loan finance field, 261 and at least one of such appointed members shall be a person having a 262 favorable reputation for skill, knowledge and experience in state and 263 municipal finance, either as a partner, officer or employee of an 264 investment banking firm which originates and purchases state and 265 municipal securities, or as an officer or employee of an insurance

company or bank whose duties relate to the purchase of state and municipal securities as an investment and to the management and control of a state and municipal securities portfolio. Of the three members first appointed who are trustees, directors, officers or employees of Connecticut institutions for higher education, one shall serve until July 1, 1986, one shall serve until July 1, 1987, and one shall serve until July 1, 1988. Of the three remaining members first appointed, one shall serve until July 1, 1983, one shall serve until July 1, 1984, and one shall serve until July 1, 1985. On or before the first day of July, annually, the Governor shall appoint a member or members to succeed those whose terms expire, each for a term of six years and until his successor is appointed and has qualified. The Governor shall fill any vacancy for the unexpired term. A member of the board shall be eligible for reappointment. Any member of the board may be removed by the Governor for misfeasance, malfeasance or wilful neglect of duty. Each member of the board before entering upon his or her duties shall take and subscribe the oath or affirmation required by section 1 of article eleventh of the State Constitution. A record of each such oath shall be filed in the office of the Secretary of the State. The State Treasurer, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management and the president of the Board of Regents for Higher Education may each designate a deputy or any staff member to represent him as a member at meetings of the board with full power to act and vote on his behalf.

(b) The chairperson of the board shall be appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of both houses of the General Assembly. The board shall annually elect one of its members as vice-chairman. The board may appoint an executive director and assistant executive director, who shall not be members of the board and who shall serve at the pleasure of the board. The executive director and assistant executive director shall receive such compensation as shall be fixed by the board.]

[(c)] (a) The executive director of the Connecticut Higher Education

266

267

268

269

270

271

272

273

274

275

276

277

278

279

280

281

282

283

284

285

286

287

288

289

290

291

292

293

294

295

296

Supplemental Loan Authority shall supervise the administrative affairs and technical activities of the authority in accordance with the directives of the board. The executive director shall keep a record of the proceedings of the authority and shall be custodian of all books, documents and papers filed with the authority, the minute book or journal of the authority, and its official seal. The executive director or assistant executive director or other person may cause copies to be made of all minutes and other records and documents of the authority and may give certificates under the official seal of the authority to the effect that such copies are true copies, and all persons dealing with the authority may rely upon such certificates.

[(d)] (b) (1) Five members of the board shall constitute a quorum. The affirmative vote of five of the members of the board shall be necessary for any action taken by the board. No vacancy in the membership of the board shall impair the right of a quorum of members to exercise all the rights and perform all the duties of the board. Any action taken by the board under the provisions of this chapter may be authorized by resolution at any regular or special meeting, and each such resolution shall take effect immediately and need not be published or posted. (2) The board of directors may delegate to three or more of its members such board powers and duties as it may deem proper. At least one of such members shall not be a state employee.

[(e)] (c) Before the issuance of any bonds or notes under the provisions of this chapter, the chairman and vice-chairman of the board of directors, the executive director and assistant executive director of the authority and any other member of the board authorized by resolution of the board to handle funds or sign checks of the authority shall execute a surety bond in the penal sum of fifty thousand dollars, or in lieu thereof the chairman shall obtain a blanket position bond covering the executive director and every member of the board and other employee of the authority in the penal sum of fifty thousand dollars. Each such bond shall be conditioned upon the

faithful performance of the duties of the principal or the members, executive director and other employees, as the case may be, shall be executed by a surety company authorized to transact business in the state as surety, and shall be filed in the office of the Secretary of the State. The cost of each such bond shall be paid by the authority.

- [(f)] (d) The members of the board shall receive no compensation for the performance of their duties hereunder but each such member shall be paid the necessary expenses incurred by such member while engaged in the performance of such duties.
- [(g)] (e) (1) No member of the board or officer, agent or employee of the authority shall, directly or indirectly, have any financial interest in any participating institution for higher education or in any corporation, business trust, estate, trust, partnership or association, two or more persons having a joint or common interest, or any other legal or commercial entity contracting with the authority. Any individual who violates the provisions of this subsection shall be punished by a fine of not less than fifty dollars nor more than one thousand dollars, or by imprisonment for not more than one month, or both.
 - (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection or the provisions of any other law to the contrary, it shall not be or constitute a conflict of interest or violation of the provisions of said subdivision or the provisions of any other law for a trustee, director, officer or employee of a participating institution of higher education or for a person having the required favorable reputation for skill, knowledge and experience in state and municipal finance or for a person having the required favorable reputation for skill, knowledge and experience in the higher education loan finance field to serve as a member of the board; provided, in each case to which the provisions of this subdivision are applicable, such trustee, director, officer or employee of such participating institution of higher education abstains from discussion, deliberation, action and vote by the board in specific

respect to any undertaking pursuant to this chapter in which such participating institution of higher education has a direct interest separate from the interests of all of the participating institutions generally, or such person having the required favorable reputation for skill, knowledge and experience in state and municipal finance abstains from discussion, deliberation, action and vote by the board in specific respect to any sale, purchase or ownership of bonds of the authority in which the investment banking firm or insurance company or bank of which such person is a partner, officer or employee has or may have a current or future interest, or such person having the required favorable reputation for skill, knowledge and experience in the higher education loan finance field abstains from discussion, deliberation, action and vote by the board in specific respect to any action of the authority in which any partnership, firm, joint venture, sole proprietorship or corporation of which such person is an owner, venturer, participant, partner, officer or employee has or may have a current or future interest.

[(h)] (f) The board of directors of the authority shall adopt written procedures, in accordance with the provisions of section 1-121, for: (1) Adopting an annual budget and plan of operations, including a requirement of board approval before the budget or plan may take effect; (2) hiring, dismissing, promoting and compensating employees of the authority, including an affirmative action policy and a requirement of board approval before a position may be created or a vacancy filled; (3) acquiring real and personal property and personal services, including a requirement of board approval for any nonbudgeted expenditure in excess of five thousand dollars; (4) contracting for financial, legal, bond underwriting and other professional services, including a requirement that the authority solicit proposals at least once every three years for each such service which it uses; (5) issuing and retiring bonds, bond anticipation notes and other obligations of the authority; (6) awarding loans, grants and other financial assistance, including eligibility criteria, the application process and the role played by the authority's staff and board of

364 365

366

367

368

369

370

371

372

373

374

375

376

377

378

379

380

381

382

383

384

385

386

387

388

389

390

391

392

393

394

395

396

directors; and (7) the use of surplus funds to the extent authorized under this chapter or other provisions of the general statutes.

[(i)] (g) The authority shall continue as long as it shall have bonds or other obligations outstanding and until its existence is terminated by law. Upon termination of the existence of the authority, all its rights and properties shall pass to and be vested in the state of Connecticut.

404 (h) The provisions of section 1-125, subsection (f) of section 10a-230 405 and this subsection shall apply to any officer, director or employee of the Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority appointed 406 407 as a director of the authority and to any employee of the Connecticut 408 Health and Educational Facilities Authority who is an authorized 409 officer of the Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority. Any such person shall not be personally liable for the debts, 410 obligations or liabilities of the authority as provided is said section 1-412 125. The authority shall and the Connecticut Health and Educational 413 Facilities Authority may provide for the indemnification to protect, 414 save harmless and indemnify such officer, director or employee of the 415 Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority as provided 416 by said section 1-125.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:						
Section 1	July 1, 2012	10a-178(e)				
Sec. 2	July 1, 2012	10a-178				
Sec. 3	July 1, 2012	New section				
Sec. 4	July 1, 2012	10a-180				
Sec. 5	July 1, 2012	10a-223				
Sec. 6	July 1, 2012	10a-224				

Statement of Purpose:

To implement the Governor's budget recommendations.

398

399

400

401

402

403

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]